



01807.001033.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

SYLVAIN JOYEAU, ET AL.

Application No.: 09/882,301

Filed: June 18, 2001

For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR
CONTROLLING ACCESS TO
COMPUTER PERIPHERALS

)
:
Examiner: A. Chen

)
:
Group Art Unit: 2182

)
:
July 7, 2004

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2004

Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

STATUS REQUEST

Sir:

Applicants' representative telephoned the Examiner on June 7, 2004 regarding the status of the above application. The Examiner indicated that the Amendment After Final Rejection dated April 7, 2004 was being processed.

Applicants' representative telephoned the Examiner again on July 7, 2004, and the Examiner indicated the Amendment After Final Rejection was still being processed.

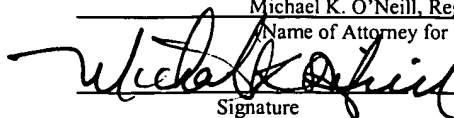
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

July 7, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Michael K. O'Neill, Reg. No. 32,622

(Name of Attorney for Applicants)



Signature

July 7, 2004

Date of Signature

Applicants' representative indicated that such a delay is inconsistent with MPEP § 714.13, which provides that a reply to an Amendment After Final Rejection should be mailed within 30 days after receipt by the Patent Office. MPEP § 714.13 also provides that if the application is placed in condition for allowance, every effort should be made to notify applicants before the period for reply expires.

In addition to informing the Examiner of this inconsistency, Applicants' representative sent another copy of the Amendment After Final Rejection dated April 7, 2004 to the Examiner via facsimile on July 7, 2004.

The Examiner recognized the delay in processing the Amendment After Final Rejection dated April 7, 2004, but attributed the delay to a transition by the Patent Office from paper to electronic processing of documents.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the USPTO issue an action on the merits in response to the Amendment After Final Rejection dated April 7, 2004 as soon as possible.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael K. O'Neill
Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 32622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA_MAIN 83377v1